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Senate

The Senate met at 10:30 a.m., and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Dear God, our Father, we thank You for the blessings You release when Your people pray. The President and Vice President and their families, the Justices of the Supreme Court, the Members of the House of Representatives and the men and women of this Senate, along with those of us privileged to work with them, are recipients of the impact of the prayers of intercession prayed by millions of Americans around the clock. Help us to remember that You are seeking to answer those prayers as we receive Your wisdom and guidance. May we never feel alone or only dependent on our own strength. Your mighty power is impinging on us here as a result of people's prayers. An unlimited supply of supernatural strength, wisdom and vision from You is ready to be released.

But, Lord, also, remind us that our ability to receive is dependent on our willingness to pray for each other here as we work together. We recommit ourselves to be channels of prayer power not only to our friends and those with whom we agree, but also for those with whom we disagree, those we consider our political adversaries, and especially those who test our patience, or those we need to forgive. So, lift our life together from a battle zone of combative words to a caring community of leaders who pray for and communicate esteem for one another. Thank You for giving us unity in spirit as we deal with diversity of ideas. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader, Senator

GORTON of Washington State, is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I announce that this morning the Senate will be in a period for the transaction of morning business until 11 a.m. At 11 a.m. the majority leader hopes that the Senate will be able to begin consideration of S. 1601, the cloning bill. We hope that the Senate will be able to make good progress on this legislation throughout today's session of the Senate.

As a reminder to all Members, the Senate will not be in session on Friday.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1611

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for its second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. INHOFE). The clerk will read the bill for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1611) to amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit any attempt to clone a human being using somatic cell nuclear transfer and to prohibit the use of Federal funds for such purposes, to provide for further review of the ethical and scientific issues associated with the use of somatic cell nuclear transfer in human beings, and for other purposes.

Mr. GORTON. I object to further proceedings on this matter at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the Calendar of General Orders.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that I may be allowed to proceed for 15 minutes in morning business and that, if the Senator from Nevada, Mr. REID, is on the floor when I complete my remarks, he be recognized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MICROSOFT

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, while the Senate is conducting its morning business, a conference is being held in Georgetown by the Progress & Freedom Foundation (PFF) on an issue that has gotten a great deal of attention over the past few weeks. From the conference title—Competition, Convergence and the Microsoft Monopoly—one might be deceived into believing these are frightening times for American consumers.

Any fears about the success of Microsoft isn't coming from those who buy Microsoft products, but from frustrated competitors. While I don't dismiss the concerns expressed by anti-Microsoft factions, their arguments certainly lack force when consumers appear to be so completely uninterested in this tale.

In fact, that's the untold story in the drama of the past several months—what does the consumer think of all this? How are American consumers being impacted? These questions are appropriate when you consider that the anti-trust laws of this country came into being to encourage competition and to protect consumers, not to settle bickering among business competitors.

Unfortunately, a lot of words have been printed and broadcast on this subject, but we've hardly heard a peep from the people who matter most—the consumers. This concerns me precisely because it appears that so many people

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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